

## H.R. 3388—SELF DRIVE Act

**Top Line:** This bipartisan Safely Ensuring Lives Future Development and Research in Vehicle Evolution (SELF DRIVE) Act creates a clear path for the safe testing, development, and deployment of self-driving cars in the U.S. and focuses on four key areas: Consumer Protection, Fostering Innovation, Increasing Mobility, and Promoting Research and Development. The SELF DRIVE Act passed unanimously 54-0 out of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

## **Background and Need for Legislation:**

- Self-driving cars hold the potential to make roads safer, create new economic opportunities, and help seniors and those with disabilities live more independently.
  - Self-driving cars are projected to reduce traffic fatalities by 90%, saving 30,000 lives a year. In 2016, there were an estimated 40,000 U.S. highway deaths, 2.5 million injuries, and over 6 million car accidents. 94% of accidents are attributable to human error according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The U.S. has not experienced an uptick in highway fatalities like we are experiencing today in decades.
  - Self-driving cars will bring new economic opportunities beyond Silicon Valley. In the U.S., the auto industry drives \$953 billion into the economy each year through sales and servicing, and employs over 1.5 million people. These jobs impact every congressional district.
- While this technology is being developed across the country, federal motor vehicle safety standards need to be updated because these cars will not have traditional steering wheels or brake pedals that all cars have today.
- The Energy & Commerce Committee held over 250 meetings to develop this legislation with a range of stakeholders including manufacturers, suppliers, tech companies, insurance providers, state government representatives, seniors' groups, and disability advocates.

## The SELF DRIVE Act, H.R. 3388, would:

- Improve NHTSA's access to safety data for future updates and development of safety standards, and require the submission of safety assessment certifications by manufacturers of self-driving cars.
- Clarify state and federal roles with respect to self-driving cars.
  - States will continue to control vehicle registration, licensing, driving education and training, insurance, law
    enforcement, crash investigations, safety and emissions inspections, congestion management of vehicles on
    their streets, and traffic laws and regulations.
  - NHTSA will continue to be the agency responsible for regulating the safety of the design, construction, and performance of self-driving cars to avoid requirements that would prohibit or limit interstate commerce and travel.
- Include protections for cybersecurity, privacy, and consumer education.

